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## FRANCE.

*Denial of report of cholera at Marseilles.*

MARSEILLES, May 19, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of to-day's date, as follows: "Wire status of cholera," and to confirm my reply thereto, viz: "No cholera."

On the 15th instant the Paris edition of the New York Herald stated that there had been several deaths from cholera at this port, but the report was undoubtedly incorrect. It is never possible to secure anything in the nature of official information as to quarantinable diseases here, \* \* \* but I have made careful investigation, and up to this time I am sure the disease has not made its appearance here. Physicians and the health authorities are expecting it, and the condition of the city, resulting from a severe drouth, which has prevailed during the winter and spring, rendering dangerous a water supply which at best is never healthy, warrants the conviction that the disease may make its appearance here at any early date. Boats are arriving nearly every day from Alexandria, where, by to-day's reports, there were 28 deaths; at Cairo, 24, and at Tura, 1. These conditions are exceedingly unfavorable for Marseilles. \* \* \* Should it (cholera) make its appearance, the Department will be at once informed.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

CLAUDE M. THOMAS,  
United States Consul.

## GERMANY.

*Vital statistics of certain Prussian cities.*

[From the Hanover Courier of April 14, 1896.]

HANOVER, GERMANY, April 15, 1896.

SIR: The results of the vital-statistic census of 18 large cities of Prussia for 1895 have just been published. The numbers given are the ratios to 1,000 souls. As to living births, Dortmund, Düsseldorf, and Cologne head the list; in Frankfort on the Main and Berlin the number falls under 29; in Prussian Königsberg, Charlottenburg, and Crefeld, under 32. Hanover's figure is 32.9. In stillbirths, Breslau, Hanover, Altona, Elberfeld, and Danzig have bad preeminence, the rate being 1.3. As to marriages, Frankfort on the Main, Berlin, and Altona stand higher, namely, at 20, while Magdeburg, Crefeld, and Halle on the Saale stand at 15 and Hanover at 18.3. For deaths, the numbers are: Breslau over 27; then follow Stettin, Prussian Königsberg, and Danzig, whilst the best exhibits are those of Charlottenburg, Elberfeld, Frankfort on the Main, and Barmen. Hanover gives 19.1. As usual, in Prussia, there is an excess of births over deaths, in regard to which factor, the order is: Dortmund, 21.3; Barmen, 16.8; Elberfeld, 16.4; and Düsseldorf, 15.6, the lowest places being held by Prussian Königsberg, 4.3; Breslau, 6.7, and Danzig, 7.1, while Berlin and Stettin stand side by side at 8. Hanover comes in pretty well up, at 13.8.

E. T. CRANE,  
United States Consul.